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(71) Applicant: Bonferraro S.p.A.
37060 Bonferraro (VR) (IT)

(72) Inventor: Ambrosi, Andrea
37052 Casaleone VR (IT)

(74) Representative: Concone, Emanuele et al
Società Italiana Brevetti S.p.A.
Via Carducci 8
20123 Milano (IT)

(54) Cutlery basket for dishwasher

(57) A cutlery basket for dishwasher includes a containing body (S) of parallelepiped shape open at the top in which there are inserted two mobile partitions (M, M') provided at the bottom end with lateral pins (P) which slide in guide slots (G) formed in the sides of the container (S), at the top end with lateral teeth (N) and at mid-height with recesses (R) orthogonal to the plane of the mobile partition (M, M'), the teeth (N) being insertible

into corresponding vertical seats (V) formed in the top edge (E) of the container (S) while the recesses (R) are shaped to fit over the edge (E). The mobile partitions (M, M') are provided with holes (A) sized for inserting the handles of cutlery and/or the blades of knives and since they can be arranged horizontally even cantilevered outside the edge (E) they allow to increase the basket capacity.

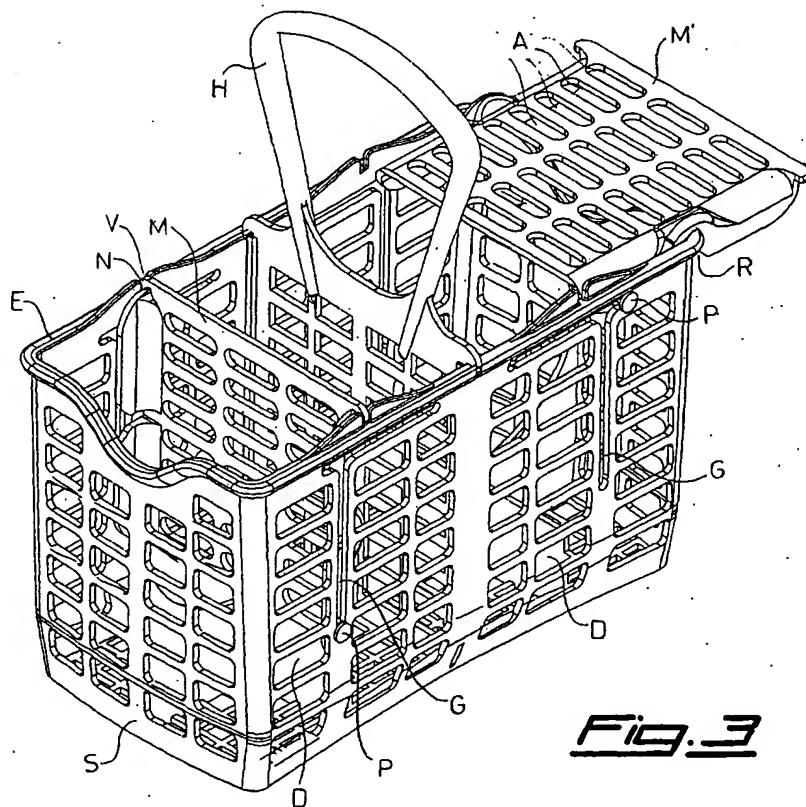


Fig. 3

it does not touch the basket bottom. Therefore solid ribs D are preferably provided on the basket bottom at seats V, so as to obtain a continuous vertical partition from edge E to the bottom. Moreover there is also preferably provided a solid rib D', still of small height, which longitudinally divides in half the basket inner volume.

[0015] From the description above it is clear how the basket according to the invention allows, since each mobile partition has 24 holes A, to house from a minimum of 48 spaced pieces of cutlery (fig.2) to a maximum of 48 spaced pieces of cutlery plus all the cutlery which can be contained between the two horizontal cantilever shelves and the central partition F. It should be noted that in this latter case 24 spaced pieces of cutlery are hanging outside container S, thus achieving a substantial increase in the basket capacity.

[0016] It is clear that the above-described and illustrated embodiment of the cutlery basket according to the invention is just an example susceptible of various modifications. In particular, depending on the shape and size of the basket the number of mobile partitions may be greater or lower than two, and the shape of the mobile partitions and the number and arrangement of holes A formed therein may change as well. Also the number of recesses R could be greater than one per side, so as to increase the possibilities of adjustment of the shelf portion projecting from container S. In this case, as a consequence, guide G would take in practice a T shape.

[0017] Similarly, the coupling mechanisms between the mobile partitions and container S may be different from the above-described couplings pin P/guide G, tooth N/seat V and recess R/edge E. For example, the partitions could be vertically inserted into lateral guides same as the central partition F, and then horizontally arranged in similar guides formed in edge E. In this case the partitions would no longer be integral with container S, but it would be possible to adjust at will the extent of the cantilever portion taking the increase in the basket capacity to the maximum.

- 2. Cutlery basket according to claim 1, characterized in that the coupling means make said at least one mobile partition (M) integral with the container (S).

- 5 3. Cutlery basket according to claim 2, characterized in that the coupling means consist of lateral pins (P) located at the bottom end of the partition (M) which slide in guide slots (G) formed in the sides of the container (S), of lateral teeth (N) located at the top end of the partition (M) and of recesses (R) orthogonal to the plane of the partition (M), said teeth (N) being insertable into corresponding vertical seats (V) formed in the edge (E) of the container (S) while said recesses (R) are shaped to fit over said edge (E).

- 10 4. Cutlery basket according to claim 3, characterized in that the recesses (R) are formed at mid-height of the partition (M).

- 15 5. Cutlery basket according to claim 3 or 4, characterized in that along the height of the partition (M) there are formed multiple pairs of recesses (R).

- 20 6. Cutlery basket according to claim 5, characterized in that the guide slots (G) formed in the container (S) have a T shape.

- 25 7. Cutlery basket according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that on the bottom of the container (S), at the vertical position of the partition (M), there is arranged a solid rib (D) having a height equal to the difference in height between the container (S) and the partition (M).

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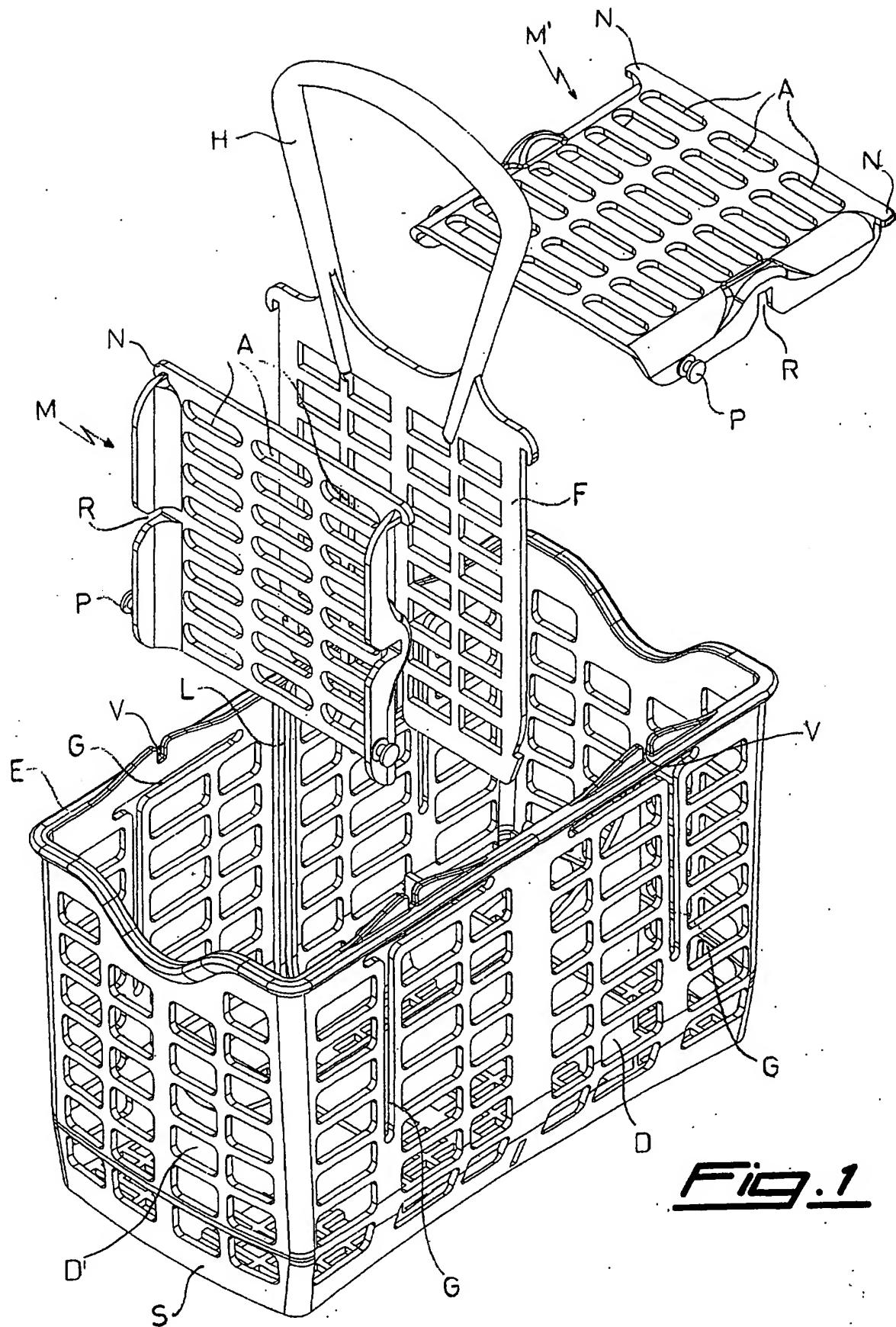
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Claims

- 1. Cutlery basket for dishwasher including a containing body (S) of parallelepiped shape open at the top in which there is arranged at least one vertical partition (M), characterized in that said at least one partition (M) is provided with a plurality of holes (A) for inserting cutlery and it is mobile between the vertical position inside said container (S) and a plurality of horizontal positions at the top edge (E) of the container (S), in at least one of said positions being arranged at least partially cantilevered outside said edge (E), said mobile partition (M) and the container (S) being provided with coupling means for blocking the mobile partition (M) in each of the positions it can take.



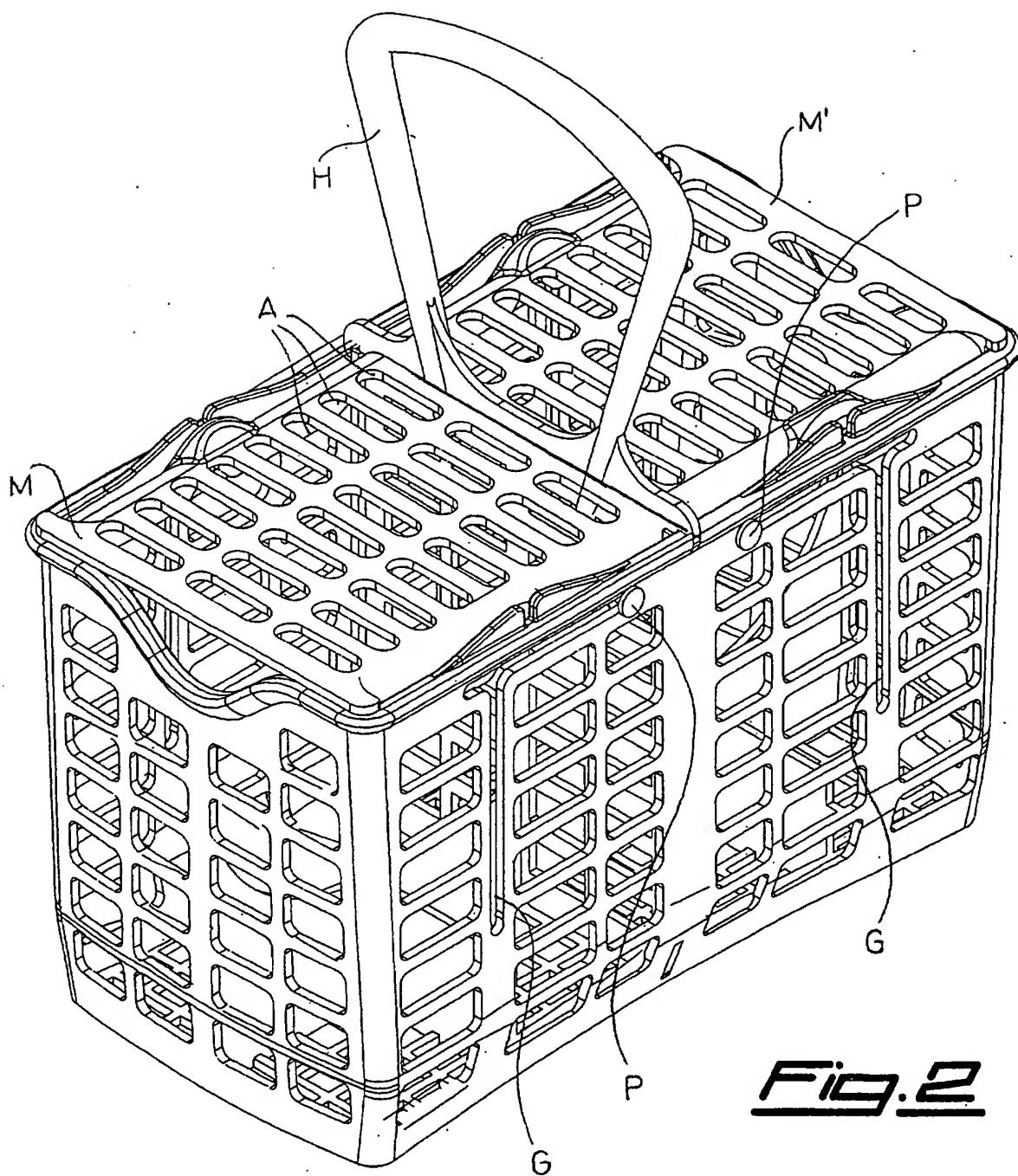


Fig. 2

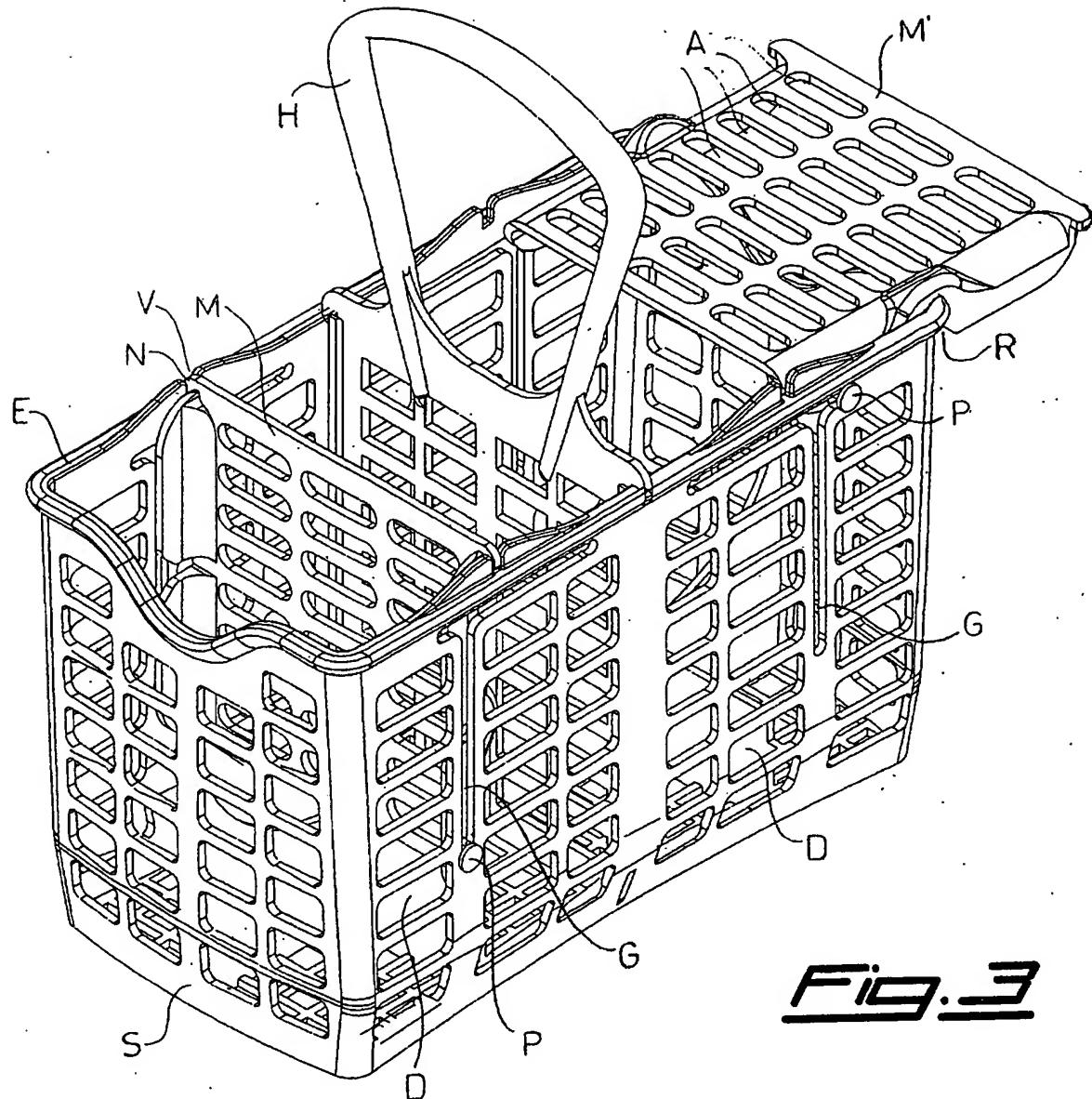


FIG. 3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Place of search</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Date of completion of the search</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Examiner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THE HAGUE</td> <td>18 October 2001</td> <td>Debard, M</td> </tr> </table>				Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	THE HAGUE	18 October 2001	Debard, M
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